

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image transfer system for transferring  
image information from an image transmission apparatus  
to an image reception apparatus provided with means for  
storing images, wherein

5 said image transmission apparatus is provided with  
means for requesting the transfer of images to transmit  
to said image reception apparatus an image transfer  
request signal containing the information of transfer  
amount indicating the transfer amount of data on the  
10 image information to be transmitted prior to the  
transmission of the actual image data;

15 said image reception apparatus comprises  
determination means to determine whether or not all the  
images to be transferred can be stored on image storage  
means in accordance with the information of the  
transfer amount contained in said image transfer  
request signal and the free information of said image  
storage means with respect to said image transfer  
20 request,

means for inputting transfer acceptance or refusal  
to prompt the user by displaying the result of  
determination by said determination means, and

25 means for transmitting response to transmit to  
said image transmission apparatus the transfer refusal  
signal or the transfer acceptance signal in accordance  
with the instruction of the user, and

said image transmission apparatus begins the transfer of image information in accordance with the transfer acceptance signal from said image reception apparatus.

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2. An image transfer system according to Claim 1, wherein said information of transfer amount is the information indicating the sheet number of images to be transferred, and the free information of said image storage means is the information indicating the sheet number of images storable on the free region of said image storage means.

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3. An image transfer system according to Claim 1, wherein said information of transfer amount is the information indicating the sum of each amount of image data of images to be transferred, and the free information of said image storage means is the free storage capacity of said image storage means.

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4. An image transfer system according to Claim 1, wherein said information of transfer amount is the information indicating the sheet number of images to be transferred, and said determination means calculates the sum of the data amount in accordance with said information of transfer amount, and compares the sum with the free storage capacity of said image storage

means.

5. An image transfer system according to Claim 1,  
wherein said means for inputting the transfer  
5 acceptance or refusal displays the current free storage  
capacity of said image storage means, and the free  
storage capacity after reception.

10 6. An image transfer system according to Claim 1,  
wherein said means for inputting the transfer  
acceptance or refusal is provided with means for  
restricting acceptance to admit of the image transfer  
within a range of the free information of said image  
storage means when said information of transfer amount  
15 exceeds the free information of said image storage  
means, and said image transmission apparatus transmits  
only the acceptable images in accordance with the  
restricted acceptance by said means for restricting  
acceptance.

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7. An image transfer system according to Claim 1,  
wherein said means for inputting the transfer  
acceptance or refusal is provided with means for  
restricting acceptance to designate the sheet number of  
25 images to be transferred within a range of free  
information of said image storage means and admit of  
the image transfer of the designated sheet number of

images when said information of transfer amount exceeds  
the free information of said image storage means, and  
said image transmission apparatus transmits only the  
acceptable images in accordance with the restricted  
5 acceptance by said means for restricting acceptance.

8. An image transfer system according to Claim 1,  
wherein said means for inputting the transfer  
acceptance or refusal is provided with means for  
10 restricting acceptant to select the images to be  
transferred within a range of free information of said  
image storage means and admit of the image transfer of  
the selected images when said information of transfer  
amount exceeds the free information of said image  
15 storage means, and said image transmission apparatus  
transmits only the acceptable images in accordance with  
the restricted acceptance by said means for restricting  
acceptance.

20 9. An image transfer system according to Claim 1,  
wherein said means for inputting the transfer  
acceptance or refusal is provided with means for  
selectively deleting images stored on said image  
storage means when said information of transfer amount  
25 exceeds the free information of said image storage  
means.

10. An image transfer system according to Claim  
1, wherein said image transmission apparatus is  
provided with means for requesting image transfer to  
transmit to said image reception apparatus the image  
transfer request signal containing the information of  
5 reduced images in addition to the transfer amount of  
data of the image information to be transmitted prior  
to transmitting the actual image data.

10 11. An image transfer system according to Claim  
1, wherein said image transmission apparatus and said  
image reception apparatus are digital cameras.

12. An image transfer method for transferring  
15 image information from an image transmission apparatus  
to an image reception apparatus provided with means for  
storing images, wherein

said image transmission apparatus comprises the  
step of requesting the transfer of images to transmit  
20 to said image reception apparatus an image transfer  
request signal containing the information of transfer  
amount indicating the transfer amount of data on the  
image information to be transmitted prior to the  
transmission of the actual image data; and

25 said image reception apparatus comprises the step  
of determining whether or not all the images to be  
transferred can be stored on image storage means in

accordance with the information of the transfer amount contained in said image transfer request signal and the free information of said image storage means with respect to said image transfer request,

5           the step of inputting transfer acceptance or refusal to prompt the user by displaying the result of determination in said determination step, and

10           the step of transmitting response to transmit to said image transmission apparatus the transfer refusal signal or the transfer acceptance signal in accordance with the instruction of the user, and

15           said image transmission apparatus begins the transfer of image information in accordance with the transfer acceptance signal from said image reception apparatus.

20           13. An image transfer method according to Claim 12, wherein said information of transfer amount is the information indicating the sheet number of images to be transferred, and the free information of said image storage means is the information indicating the sheet number of images storable on the free region of said image storage means.

25           14. An image transfer method according to Claim 12, wherein said information of transfer amount is the information indicating the sum of each amount of image

data of images to be transferred, and the free information of said image storage means is the free storage capacity of said image storage means.

5           15. An image transfer method according to Claim  
12, wherein said information of transfer amount is the  
information indicating the sheet number of images to be  
transferred, and the sum of the data amount is  
calculated in said determination step in accordance  
10 with said information of transfer amount, and compares  
the sum with the free storage capacity of said image  
storage means.

15           16. An image transfer method according to Claim  
12, wherein the current free storage capacity of said  
image storage means and the free storage capacity after  
reception are displayed in said step of inputting the  
transfer acceptance or refusal.

20           17. An image transfer method according to Claim  
12, wherein said step of inputting the transfer  
acceptance or refusal further comprises the step of  
restricting acceptance to admit of the image transfer  
within a range of the free information of said image  
25 storage means when said information of transfer amount  
exceeds the free information of said image storage  
means, and said image transmission apparatus transmits

only the acceptable images in accordance with the acceptance restricted in said step of restricting acceptance.

5           18. An image transfer method according to Claim 12, wherein said image transmission apparatus and said image reception apparatus are digital cameras.

10           19. An image reception apparatus comprising:  
            means for receiving image transfer request to receive the image transfer request signal containing the information of transfer amount indicating transfer data amount of the image information to be transferred;  
            image storage means;  
15           determination means for determining whether or not all the images to be transferred can be stored on said image storage means in accordance with said information of transfer amount contained in said image transfer request signal, and the free information of said image  
20           storage means;  
            means for inputting the transfer acceptance or refusal to prompt the user to accept or refuse the transfer by displaying the determination result of said determination means, and  
25           means for transmitting response to transmit response to said image transmission apparatus the transfer refusal signal or the transfer acceptance



signal in accordance with the instruction of the user.

20. An image reception apparatus according to  
Claim 19, wherein said information of transfer amount  
5 is the information indicating the sheet number of  
images to be transferred, and the free information of  
said image storage means is the information indicating  
the sheet number of images storable on the free region  
of said image storage means.

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21. An image reception apparatus according to  
Claim 19, wherein said information of transfer amount  
is the information indicating the sum of each amount of  
image data of images to be transferred, and the free  
15 information of said image storage means is the free  
storage capacity of said image storage means.

22. An image reception apparatus according to  
Claim 19, wherein said information of transfer amount  
20 is the information indicating the sheet number of  
images to be transferred, and said determination means  
calculates the sum of the data amount in accordance  
with said information of transfer amount, and compares  
the sum with the free storage capacity of said image  
25 storage means.

23. An image reception apparatus according to

Claim 19, wherein said means for inputting the transfer acceptance or refusal displays the current free storage capacity of said image storage means, and the free storage capacity after reception.

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24. An image reception apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein said means for inputting the transfer acceptance or refusal is provided with means for restricting acceptance to admit of the image transfer within a range of the free information of said image storage means when said information of transfer amount exceeds the free information of said image storage means, and said image transmission apparatus transmits only the acceptable images in accordance with the restricted acceptance by said means for restricting acceptance.

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25. An image transmission apparatus comprising:  
transfer means for transferring the information of data amount indicating the data amount of image data to an external apparatus;

reception means for receiving from said external apparatus the signal indicating whether or not said external apparatus admits of the transmission of said image data in accordance with said information of data amount and the free storage capacity of storage means to store said image data in said external apparatus;

and

control means for controlling the transmission of  
said image data in accordance with the signal received  
by said reception means to indicate whether or not the  
5 transmission of said image data is admitted.

26. An image transmission apparatus according to  
Claim 25, wherein the signal to indicate whether or not  
the transmission of said image data is admitted is  
10 generated by the manual operation of said external  
apparatus.

27. An image transmission apparatus according to  
Claim 25, wherein said image transmission apparatus is  
15 a digital camera.

28. An image transmission apparatus according to  
Claim 25, wherein said transfer means and said  
reception means perform transfer and transmission by  
20 use of cordless line.

29. An image transmission apparatus according to  
Claim 25, wherein said transfer means performs transfer  
by adding the thumb nail images having said file name  
25 corresponding to said image data or said image data or  
the information of priority order of said image data.

30. An image transmission apparatus according to Claim 25, wherein the image corresponding to said image data is the image corresponding to a plurality of files, and said signal to indicate whether or not the transfer of said image data is admitted permits the transfer of a part of plural files, but not any transfer of the files other than the part of the file permitted for transfer.

31. An image transmission apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein said file name indicates the positional information when said image data is photographed.

32. An image transmission apparatus according to Claim 25, wherein the image corresponding to said image data is the image corresponding to a plurality of files, and said transfer means transfers the audio corresponding to said image.

33. An image transmission apparatus according to Claim 27, further comprising:

photographing means to photograph images, and said photographing means is capable of photographing during the transmission of said image data.

34. An image transmission apparatus according to

Claim 25, further comprising:

means for designating the suspension of said communication.

5           35. An image transmission apparatus according to  
Claim 25, wherein the image corresponding to said image  
data is the image corresponding to a plurality of  
files, and said reception means receives from said  
external apparatus the information indicating the files  
10 to be received by said external apparatus, and the  
information indicating the address of the external  
apparatus other than said external apparatus, and the  
files to be received by the external apparatus other  
than said external apparatus.

15           36. An image reception apparatus comprising:  
reception means to receive the information of data  
amount indication the data amount of image data;

20           detection means to detect the free storage  
capacity of storage means to store said image data;  
output means to output the indication screen to  
indicate the reception of said image data in accordance  
with said information of data amount and said free  
storage capacity;

25           transmission means to transmit to the external  
apparatus the signal to indicate whether or not said  
image data are required in accordance with the

reception indication of said image data; and

image reception means to transmit to said external apparatus the signal to indicate whether or not said external apparatus admits of the transmission of said image data, and to receive from said external apparatus the image data in accordance with said transmission.

37. An image reception apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein the signal to indicate whether or not the transfer of said image data is admitted is generated by the manual designation in accordance with the indication of said output means.

38. An image reception apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein said image transmission apparatus is a digital camera.

39. An image reception apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein said transfer means and said reception means perform transfer and transmission by use of cordless line.

40. An image reception apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein said reception means receives the thumb nail images having said file name corresponding to said image data or said image data or also receives the information of priority order of said image data.

41. An image reception apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein the image corresponding to said image data is the image corresponding to a plurality of files, and said signal to indicate whether or not the transfer of said image data is admitted permits the transfer of a part of plural files, but not any transfer of the files other than the part of the file permitted for transfer.

42. An image reception apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein said file name indicates the positional information when said image data is photographed.

43. An image reception apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein the image corresponding to said image data is the image corresponding to a plurality of files, and said reception means receives the audio corresponding to said image.

44. An image reception apparatus according to Claim 36, further comprising:

photographing means to photograph images, and said photographing means is capable of photographing during the reception of said image data.

45. An image reception apparatus according to

Claim 36, further comprising:

means for designating the suspension of said image reception.

- 5           46. An image reception apparatus according to  
Claim 36, wherein the image corresponding to said image  
data is the image corresponding to a plurality of  
files, and the information indicating the files to be  
received by said image reception means, and the address  
10 of the external apparatus to receive the files other  
than the files to be received by said image reception  
means are transmitted when transmission is made.